Solar Power Plants in Rajasthan

4815. SHRI RAJENDRA PRASAD MODY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 744 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th March, 1995 and state;

(a) whether Government have set up/ propose to set up some solar power plants in the country including Rajasthan during the remaining period of the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the names of places selected for this prupose and the time by which these plants are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Solar photovoltaic power plants up to 100 KW capacity aggregating to around 815 KW, have so far been installed in 22 States & Union Territories and projects aggregating to 226 KW are under implementation in 7 States & Union Territories. 11 projects amounting to 85.20 KW, have been installed in Rajasthan and 8 projects amounting to 33.20 KW are under implementation. Further Projects will be taken up at potential locations indentified by the State, depending on proposals which may be received from State Government, and on the basis of techno-economic assessment and availability of funds.

A 35 KW R&D-cum-demonstration solar thermal power plant based on solar thermal technology is porposed to be taken up during the Eighth Plan period near Jodhpur in Rajasthan, subject to mobilisation of financial resources and necessary approvals.

Letters Written by MPs to the ministry of Non-Conventional energy sources

4816. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of letters written by the Members of Parliament to the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources during the period from 1st April, to 31st March, 1995;

(b) what is the number of letters acknowledged out of them;

(c) what is the number of letters in respect of which final replies were sent; and

(d) what is the break-up of final letters issued by that Ministry containing positive and negative replies respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) 40 letters written by the Members of Parliment were received in this Ministry during April 1st, 1994 to 31st March, 1995.

(b) 37 letters were acknowledged.

(c) Final replies were sent in respect of 32 letters.

(d) 29 letters contained positive replies and 3 contained negative replies.

Targets of Installation of Bio-Gas Plants

4817. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed any targets for installing bio-gas plants in the rural areas of the country during the year 1995-96;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the district-wise details of the 20,000 family type bio-gas plants